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Global Aid Plan Favored by Ike

By Drew Pearson

Vitally important plans for the President's coming "State of the Union" and inaugural addresses are now being formed in Augusta and Washington.

Pearson

They indicate a break with the past, particularly a break with the isolationist wing of the Republican Party, as drastic as anything that has happened in Eisenhower's four years in office.

The President plans a huge global program to recapture American prestige and power in the Near East, the Far East, and Europe. It will take the form of a spending program more expansive than anything the Eisenhower Administration has ever dreamed of, greater probably than the original Marshall Plan under Truman. It will also include guarantees to Near Eastern states against attack.

The plan is to fill in the economic vacuum in the Near East and Asia caused by the adjustments of outmoded colonialism. This will mean a lot of money. It will be spent on irrigation and various improvements to raise the living standards of Asiatic-African peoples.

At the same time, the President plans to revive tarnished ties with our old allies, France and Britain. He plans to put this whole program under Gov. Christian Herter of Massachusetts who is being brought into the State Department in January. John Foster Dulles will be given little or no chance to meddle with it.

To prepare for the program, the President has already brought Gen. "Bobby" Cutler, former Secretary of the National Security Council, back from Boston to the White House. He had originally tried to draft his former chief of staff, Gen. W. "Beetle" Smith, who served as head of Central Intelligence and Under Secretary of State for Truman. Cutler is now holding meetings in the State Department, preparing for the big new foreign affairs offensive.

Also helping is Vice President Nixon. As a former isolationist, his job is to win over the isolationist wing of the Republican Party.

Ike's Crucial 4 Years

What brought President Eisenhower around to his present thinking, according to his friends, are two things:

1. Dulles' illness, during which Ike realized for the first time the badly deteriorated state of our foreign policy.

the British and French in the Near and Middle East, we had simultaneously failed to do anything about filling the vacuum left by them as they were undermined. Thus the Russians had moved into the vacuum as the French and British moved out.

The President, according to friends, also began to smart when newspapers which had steadfastly supported him in the past, such as the New York Times and New York Herald Tribune, began knocking him for deserting the French and British. By the time he got to Augusta, he began to realize that he had knocked the spots out of the two nations he had long been closely identified with, the French and British, and found himself lined up with the Russians and their stooge, Col. Nasser.

Agonizing Reappraisal

Accordingly, the President has been experiencing his own "agonizing reappraisal."

During the days just prior to his Augusta trip, Mr. Eisenhower refused to see the British Foreign Minister, Selwyn Lloyd, and the Australian External Minister, Richard Casey, both stanch friends of the United States.

Simultaneously, he gave luncheons for, or received the Prime Minister of Greece, the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, and the Prime Minister of Tunisia. Technical reasons for snubbing the foreign ministers of such important countries as England and Australia was that they were mere foreign ministers. However, The White House also discouraged a visit with Prime Minister Eden, who wanted to stop en route from Jamaica.

One conversation which had impact on the President was with Douglas Dillon, United States Ambassador to France, who was so disturbed at worsening American-French friendship that he flew to Augusta. He feared the State Department would not transmit his cablegrams to Mr. Eisenhower warning that never in history had the French been so bitter against the United States for holding up the sale of oil. This was a Dulles policy with which Mr. Eisenhower had concurred.

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